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NORTHAMPTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1956



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NORTHAMPTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1956.

To the Chairman and Members of Northampton Rural District Council.

My Lady, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Again I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the year 1956.

Notifications of infectious diseases were similar to those for England and Wales.

Several cases of Food Poisoning were notified during the year and the cause traced to another area. These cases were caused by a carrier of the causal organism. Cleanliness of the individual concerned was not what it should have been, thus showing the need for education in cleanliness in handlers of food.

Progress has been made in Poliomyelitis vaccination, in so far as supplies of the vaccine have been available.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

ARTHUR LUCAS.

Medical Officer of Health.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS. 1956.

Area (acres)	50,010
Population (estimated at mid-year 1956)	23,290
Number of inhabited houses (at 31st March, 1957) according to rate books	7,884
Rateable Value (31st December, 1956)	£265,237
Product of ld. rate 1956/1957 (Actual)	£1032. 3. 2d.

LIVE BIRTHS.

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Rate per 1000</u> <u>(of population)</u>	<u>England & Wales</u>
Legitimate	420	211	209		
Illegitimate	15	9	6		
	<u>435</u>	<u>220</u>	<u>215</u>	<u>18.6</u>	<u>14.6</u>

STILLBIRTHS.

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Rate per 1000</u> <u>(of total births)</u>	<u>England & Wales</u>
Legitimate	4	1	3		
Illegitimate	-	-	-		
	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>9.11</u>	<u>23.3</u>

DEATHS.

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Rate per 1000</u> <u>(of total population)</u>	<u>England & Wales</u>
All causes	290	144	146	12.4	11.3

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES - 1

INFANT MORTALITY - rate per 1000 live births

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Rate</u>	
Legitimate	8	5	3		
Illegitimate	-	-	-		
	<u>8</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>18.3</u>	<u>23.9</u>

DEATHS FROM

Malignant neoplasms (all ages)	34
Measles (all ages)	Nil
Whooping Cough	Nil
Diarrhoea	Nil

CAUSES OF DEATH.

During the year the principal causes of death were those in the heart diseases categories (Refer to Table I on page Causes of Death).

SECTION A.

Natural and Social Conditions

Deaths:- The total number of deaths assigned to the District by the Registrar General after adjustment for outward and inward transferable deaths was 293, as compared with 298 in 1955. The crude death rate based on the estimated population was 12.4 per thousand as compared with 13.6 in 1955.

The following table shows the death rates for the quinquennium 1952 - 1956, together with the corresponding rates for England and Wales and the Administrative County: -

Death Rates 1952 - 1956.

	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>
Northampton R.D.	9.61	11.3	13.1	13.6	12.4
Administrative County	11.04	11.51	11.04	11.38	11.24
England & Wales	11.3	11.4	11.3	11.7	11.3

The history of the rate, together with other vital statistics for the years 1936 - 1956 is shown on Table II on page

Births:- The number of live births assigned to the District was 435 (220 males, 215 females) as compared with 356 in 1955, thus giving a crude rate of 18.6 per thousand of population as compared with 16.7 for the previous year. The following table shows the trend of the birthrate for the years 1952 - 1956 with other rates for comparison: -

Crude Birth Rates 1952 - 1956.

	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>
Northampton R.D.	15.12	15.7	15.3	16.7	18.6
Administrative County	15.5	16.16	16.2	15.49	16.67
England & Wales	15.3	15.5	15.2	15.0	14.6

Stillbirths:- There were 4 stillbirths assigned to the District as compared with 4 in 1955.

Stillbirth Rates 1952 - 1956 (per thousand total Births)

	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>
Northampton R.D.	22.7	12.4	17.9	10.8	9.11

Illegitimate Birth Rate:- Fifteen illegitimate live births were registered as compared with eleven in 1955. Shown as a proportion of the total number of live births, this represents 3.4 per cent compared with 3.1 per cent in 1955.

Maternal Mortality:- There was one maternal death assigned to the District, compared with none in 1955 and none in 1954.

Natural and Social Conditions (continued).

Infant Mortality: - The number of infants who died before attaining their first birthday was 8 (5 males and 3 females). There were 7 (5 males and 2 females) in 1955.

The rates for 1952 - 1956 together with other rates for comparison are: -

Deaths under One year per thousand live births.

	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>
Northampton R.D.	29	28	18	21.9	18.3
Administrative County	25	25	24	20.79	19.68
England & Wales	28	27	26	24.9	23.9

SECTION B.

1. General Provisionsof Health Services: -

Medical Officer of Health	A. Lucas, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P.S., D.P.H.
Chief Public Health Inspector	R. J. Miller, A.I.A.S., M.R.S.H.
Additional Public Health Inspectors	M. de V. Merriman, M.S.I.A. T. A. Harris, M.S.I.A., M.R.S.H.

2. Laboratory Facilities: -

The bacteriological work associated with the Public Health Department is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service whose laboratory, in charge of which is Dr. C. Hoyle, is situated at the Northampton General Hospital. The bacteriological examination of water samples is also carried out by Dr. Hoyle.

3. Diphtheria Antitoxin: -

A supply of antitoxin is always available for use in the District by applying to the dispenser at the Northampton General Hospital.

4. Treatment Centres and Clinics: -

Child Welfare Centres, provided by the County Council, are held at Duston, Hackleton, Kislingbury, Weston Favell and Roade.

An antenatal clinic, also provided by the County Council, is available at the County Hall, Northampton.

5. Tuberculosis Survey: -

As in 1955, a number of new cases of the disease were notified from St. Crispin Hospital, Duston, where a Mass Radiography survey had been carried out.

Mass Radiography surveys were also carried out with the co-operation of two large factories in the District, one in Duston and one in Hardingstone. In these two surveys over 2,600 examinations were made. Tribute should be paid to the high percentage of people coming forward for examination. It is to be hoped that the excellent work of the Mass Radiography Unit will be extended within the District. A number of cases were referred to the Chest Clinic.

Reference should be made to Appendix Table III on page 23.

SECTION C.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

1. Water.

The main Public Water Supply is not yet available to Castle Ashby, the only parish in the District without this service. It is, however, hoped that in the near future the supply will be taken over by the Mid-Northamptonshire Water Board.

At present there are eleven known public wells. Of these six have pumps in working order. Most of the wells are polluted and where applicable, notices have been posted to indicate that the water is unfit for human consumption.

2. Rivers and Streams.

One complaint of pollution was received during the year. There was the possibility that this arose from the outfall from the land irrigation disposal at Hardingstone, which, in view of the expansion of that parish, was heavily overloaded. A scheme to connect to the sewerage system of the Northampton County Borough has now been approved.

Meanwhile, as a palliative measure, special precautions were taken to withhold as much offensive matter as possible at Hardingstone Abattoir. The collection of as much blood as possible, and the installation of a settlement tank, which is emptied regularly by the cesspool vehicle, brought about a marked improvement in the effluent to the sewer beds.

3. Sanitation and Water Supplies Schedule.

For further details, reference may be made to the schedule of Sanitation and Water Supplies in Table XV of the Appendix on page 37.

4. Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

The delay in providing sewage disposal schemes in Great Houghton, Hardingstone, Courteenhall, Hackleton and Rothersthorpe is regrettable as there is always a danger to health with the present inadequate methods of disposal.

SECTION D.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

1. Milk Supply.

The number of persons registerable under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, was 9.

Further particulars can be found on page 16.

2. Food Premises.

With the coming into force of the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, a better and more clearly defined standard for food premises could be called for, and regular inspections of food premises and travelling vans were carried out during the year.

Further details may be found on pages 17 and 18.

3. Food Poisoning Outbreaks.

There were two food poisoning outbreaks during the year, one involving twenty-one cases and one involving a single case. The major outbreak occurred during the autumn months and was traced to a source outside the District.

Further details can be found in Table XIV on page 36.

4. Meat Inspection.

There was no change in the number of licensed slaughterhouses in operation.

The throughput was increased by 20% over last year, but on the whole, the meat traders have settled down to a routine of regular slaughtering, which enables 100% meat inspection to be carried out with the minimum of overtime.

SECTION E.

Prevalence of, and control over, Infectious and other Diseases.

1. Smallpox.

No case was notified during the year, as was so in 1955.

2. Scarlet Fever.

Thirty-one cases (14 male, 17 female) were notified during the year, as compared with sixteen during 1955. All the cases appeared to be of a mild clinical type.

3. Diphtheria.

No cases of diphtheria were notified during the year.

4. Puerperal Pyrexia.

Two cases were notified under the Puerperal Pyrexia Regulations, 1939, in the year under review, as compared with one in 1955.

5. Pneumonia.

Twenty-five cases (15 male, 10 female) of acute primary pneumonia or acute influenzal pneumonia were notified, as compared with twenty-one cases in 1955. Pneumonia was the certified cause of death in twenty-seven cases. These deaths are not necessarily those of patients who were notified under the relevant regulations.

6. Erysipelas.

Five cases were notified, as was so in 1955.

7. Measles.

Thirty-eight cases were notified during the year, as compared with three hundred and fifteen in 1955. There were no deaths.

8. Whooping Cough.

Seven cases were notified, as compared with ninety-four in 1955. There were no deaths.

9. Acute Poliomyelitis (Infantile Paralysis).

One case was notified during the year, compared with six in 1955. There were no deaths.

10. Acute Encephalitis (Infective).

No cases were notified during the year, compared with one in 1955.

11. Dysentery.

No cases were notified during the year, as compared with four in 1955.

12. Cerebro Spinal Fever.

Again no case was notified during the year.

Prevalence of, and control over Infectious and other Diseases (continued).

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13. Food Poisoning.

Twenty-two cases were notified during the year, as compared with one in 1955.

14. Tuberculosis.

Seventeen new cases of tuberculosis were notified during the year - sixteen cases being respiratory - as compared with twenty-nine cases - twenty-seven respiratory - in 1955.

Six persons died of tuberculosis during the year.

The age and sex incidence of the new cases and deaths from the disease are given in Table III on page 23.

The corrected number of deaths, together with the crude death rate during the quinquennium 1952 - 1956 and those for the administrative county are as follows: -

Tuberculosis Mortality.

	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>
Northampton R.D.	0.3	0.29	0.15	0.05	0.26
Administrative County	0.25	0.18	0.12	0.09	0.09

No action was taken during 1956 under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925 or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

15. National Assistance Act, 1948.

No action was taken under Section 47 or under Section 50 of the Act.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

A. LUCAS.

Medical Officer of Health.

September, 1957.

NORTHAMPTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year

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REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1956.

Mr. Chairman, My Lady, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year 1956, being the twenty-sixth I have had the honour to present.

1. Staff - Administrative.

Change of Designation: - In August, with the passing of the Sanitary Inspectors (Change of Designation) Act, 1956, the designation sanitary inspectors was changed to public health inspectors.

Chief of Department	....	R. J. Miller, A.I.A.S., M.R.S.H., Registered Architect.
Public Health Inspectors	....	M. de V. Merriman, M.S.I.A. T. A. Harris, M.S.I.A., M.R.S.H.
Chief Clerk	....	S. O. Starmer
Clerk	....	R. S. Haynes

2. Staff - Outdoor.

Rodent Operative	1
Sewage Disposal - (Labourers)	5
Refuse Disposal - (Drivers)	3
- (Loaders)	6
- (Labourers)	1
Cesspool Service -	2

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

Water Supplies.

During the year 122 samples were taken, 82 being taken from public sources and 40 from private wells, etc. All samples were submitted for bacteriological examination.

Of the 122 samples submitted for bacteriological examination, 54 samples were of untreated water.

The results of all bacteriological samples have been grouped and the following percentages obtained: -

Note: - 1955 percentages in parentheses.

	<u>Public Supplies</u>		<u>Private Supplies</u>	
	<u>Piped</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Piped</u>	<u>Other</u>
<u>Category 1.</u>				
(Very satisfactory - No. B. coli or faecal coli)	76.32% (80.82%)	16.67% (25.00%)	54.55% (66.7%)	11.12% (17.39%)

	<u>Public Supplies</u>		<u>Private Supplies</u>	
	<u>Piped</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Piped</u>	<u>Other</u>
<u>Category 2.</u>				
(Satisfactory - small B. coli count - no faecal coli)	15.79% (12.33%)	- (37.5%)	36.36% (-)	22.22% (8.70%)
<u>Category 3.</u>				
(Unsatisfactory and suspicious high B. coli count, no faecal coli)	5.25% (2.74%)	16.66% (25.00%)	- (-)	22.22% (13.04%)
<u>Category 4.</u>				
(Unsatisfactory and dangerous B. coli and faecal coli)	1.32% (4.11%)	50.00% (-)	9.09% (33.3%)	22.22% (39.13%)
<u>Category 5.</u>				
(Very unsatisfactory and dangerous - high counts of B. coli and faecal coli)	1.32% (-)	16.67% (12.5%)	- (-)	22.22% (21.74%)

In the above table will be found a summary of the reports received on water samples taken both for emergency reasons and for routine purposes during the year under review. Details of water sample reports for each Parish can be found in Table X of the Appendix on page 32.

Generally speaking, the District has a high standard as regards the purity of water supplies. The Main supply is now available to all parishes in the District excepting Castle Ashby and Whiston, and many more dwellings have been connected to it.

Out of 11 known Public Wells, only six were in use during 1956, compared with five in 1955. It was decided that the Mid-Northamptonshire Water Board be asked to close the wells.

During the year two chemical samples were taken.

Swimming Pool.

During the season 37 samples of water from the one privately owned public swimming pool were taken for bacteriological examination. Of these, 22 were very satisfactory, 10 were slightly suspicious, 4 showed low count of coliform bacilli and 1 showed that faecal coli were present.

The pool water is pumped out before the commencement of each summer season and the sides and sand bottom are cleansed. The pool then gradually fills again by water percolating through the sand bottom, being filtered in the process. Chlorination of the pool then takes place as necessary by the use of special dosing plant, through which water is pumped from the deep bore at the Aquadrome. At the same time soda ash is distributed in the supply to ensure a balanced water content. An engineer supervises the plant and its maintenance. Bacteriological water samples and free chlorine and acidity readings are taken constantly throughout the season.

Tents, Vans, Sheds and Similar Structures.

Constant vigilance is maintained with regard to the control of indiscriminate caravanning. Each application is dealt with from many points of view to avoid nuisance to or other disturbance of the particular locality.

There are nine sites at present licensed, whilst thirteen licenses are in force for single caravans or small groups of moveable dwellings.

Further details can be found in Table IX on page 31.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

During the year no cases of infestation were reported, as was so in 1955.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Under the order of priority the position at the end of 1956 was:-

Duston - Millway Sewer	- Completed 1947.
Roade - Hyde Lane and London Road Sewer	- Completed 1949.
Weston Favell - Kettering Road Sewer	- Completed 1950.
Bugbrooke and Heyford - Full Scheme	- Completed 1952.
Cogenhoe) Combined drainage scheme Brafield) to Northampton Corporation Little Houghton) Works	- Completed 1953.
Hartwell) Ashton) - Full Scheme	- Completed 1953.
Billing - New Sewerage	- Completed 1950.
Harpole) Kislingbury) - Full Scheme	- Completed 1954.
Hackleton) Piddington) - Full Scheme Horton)	- 1st part completed 1954. In September, Ministry gave permission to advertise 2nd part.
Collingtree - Full Scheme	- Completed 1955.
Great Houghton - Full Scheme	- Inquiry by Ministry in July, 1955. Approved by Ministry April, 1956. Starting date awaited.
Rothersthorpe - Full Scheme	- Plans for combined scheme rejected by Ministry in November, 1955. New Scheme sent to Ministry April, 1956.
Wootton - Sewerage of Village	- Completed 1953.
Denton - Improvement to Disposal.	
Hardingstone - Improvements to Disposal	- Plans approved by Council in November, 1955. Ministry Inquiry August, 1956.
Milton - Improvements to Disposal	
Yardley Hastings - Improvements to Disposal	
Harpole - Larkhall Lane Extension	- Completed 1954.
Brafield - Extension at Top End	- Completed 1956.
Courteenhall - Full Scheme	- Still with Ministry
Nether Heyford - Wharf Extension	- Completed 1956.
Ashton - Little Ashton Extension	- Completed 1956.
Castle Ashby - Disposal Works	

GENERAL

As will be seen from the above statement, slow but some progress is being made with outstanding schemes and it is hoped that 1957 will see a better advance towards 100% main drainage throughout the District, which it should not be impossible to reach within a reasonable time.

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The proposed £4,680 scheme for Folly Lane, Hartwell, was rejected by the Ministry in April on the grounds that the "existing conditions are not such as would justify expenditure at present."

In addition to progress detailed above, other principal drainage items dealt with during the year were:-

- (i) Discussion with County Council to alleviate flooding from surface water off The Warren and Housing Estate, Hardingstone.
- (ii) Plans for relief sewer from bottom of High Street, Weston Favell.
- (iii) Plans for relief sewer in Main Road, Duston.
- (iv) Sewer crossing of Yardley Hastings water course improved.

The number of properties not connected where main drainage is available is steadily diminishing.

The following figures show the position at the end of 1956:-

	Connections &/or Conversions	Sewer available but not connected
Bugbrooke	139	16
Nether Heyford	101	3
Upper Heyford	6	3
Hartwell	66	20
Ashton	35	8
Cogenhoe	98	43
Kislingbury	112	28
Harpole	149	77
Collingtree	56	13

CESSPOOL EMPTYING SERVICE.

This service is still greatly valued by those relying on cesspool drainage, and I am sure gives good service.

Unfortunately, owing to frost damage, the vehicle was out of commission from February to April and as it was becoming mechanically unfit otherwise, purchase of a new vehicle was authorised.

Statistically the number of properties attended to increased by 49 (18% over 1955). However, the mileage was down (5.5%), the total nett cost slightly less and the cost per cesspool was less at an average of £3. 7s. 3d. each, against £3. 13s. 9d. The re-chargeable works done brought in 25% of the total expenditure.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

No change was made in the collecting schedules. The year's figures show a 13% increase in weight collected, 4.2% increase in vehicle mileage and the total nett cost of the service increased by 28.5% (wages 7%)

As envisaged last year, revenue from salvage decreased by 12.5% (£1,434 against £1,660) and future income on present conditions should average about £1,200 - £1,400.

The following comparative costs will be of interest, but must be judged without any knowledge of the service provided by other Authorities.

From the figures for 1955/1956 published by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government the nett costs per 1,000 population show Northampton Rural District Council as £235 with an average for the 60 rural authorities sending in figures of £431. Eleven of the 60 showed a lower figure than for this District.

In the County Council Treasurer's statistics for 1956/57, the rates levied for refuse service show Northampton Rural District Council 6.88d; Brixworth Rural District Council 4.15d; Wellingborough ls. 1.72d. with an average of 10.72d. and the similar figures in **his** 1957/58 report shows again that the rate cost in this district is only the second lowest.

Following my observation in 1955 of the condition of the vehicles, a sub-Committee's recommendation of ordered replacements was adopted by the Council, with a changeover to diesel engines. The order of replacements to be one each in the financial years 1956/57, 1957/58, 1958/59. The first vehicle was received and put into service during the year.

The coming problem of refuse disposal will be the filling up of the few outlying tipping places. When this arises, the haulage distances and hence mileage and costs will increase, but there is at least the satisfaction of knowing that Gayton will last for many years.

HOUSING ACT, 1936.

A summary of action taken during the year is as follows:-

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Number of houses on which action was commenced	90 (38)
Number of houses on which demolition orders were made	10 (6)
Number of houses on which closing orders were made	- (1)
Number of houses on which proposals for reconstruction were accepted	8 (11)
Number of houses on which other proposals were accepted	6 (5)
Number of houses on which action has not been finalised	12 (30)
Number of houses for which licences were issued for temporary occupation	9 (9)

Housing Acts, 1949 - 54.

Number of houses for which Improvement Grant applications were made of which ten were under Housing Act Notice.	82 (74)
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NOTE:- Figures for 1955 are shown in brackets.

HOUSING.

The year has been characterised by the continued increase in the amount of private housing development particularly in parishes nearer to Northampton.

The construction of Council Houses has continued to decline although the total number of houses completed by the Council from 1945 up to the end of 1955 was 1657.

Considerable use has been made during the year of Improvement Grants as can be seen from the statistics. Some of the houses improved had previously been under Housing Act Notice.

The Council continued with their Slum Clearance Schemes during the year dealing with a Parish at a time. Thus in the course of time the standard of housing amenities it is hoped will be greatly improved.

MILK REGULATIONS.

Under the Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, five supplementary licences were issued during the year, to enable firms from outside the area to retail pasteurised milk within the District, and one licence was issued for sterilised milk to be sold.

Three licences were issued to traders outside the area to sell raw tuberculin tested milk in the area.

Four licences were also issued to enable dealers whose premises are within the District to sell milk under the special designation "Pasteurised"

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

Knackers' Yards.

There is one licensed Knacker's Yard in the district. Inspections were carried out during the year, and conditions were found to be generally satisfactory.

Details of casualties dealt with are shown in Table XIII of the Appendix on Page 35.

Food Premises.

The number of premises in which food is prepared and sold is 245, consisting of the following:-

Bakehouses	5
Butchers	21
Factory Canteens	6
School Canteens	14
Institutional Canteens	1
Clubs	4
Greengrocers	6
Grocers, etc.	67
Ice-cream sales points	54
Licensed premises	52
Refreshment Houses	7
Confectioners	7
Food Factories	--
Fishmongers	1
	<hr/>
	245
	<hr/>

There was a steady improvement in the general standard of food premises within the District, and, with the backing of the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, a number of shops were brought up to the required standard.

All food traders in the District were provided with a leaflet outlining the main requirements of the new Regulations to encourage them to put their premises in order, if not already completely up to the new standard. By this means, the need for statutory action by the Council is considerably reduced, and informal action and advice is generally sufficient to ensure compliance with the regulations.

Ice Cream.

There are 54 premises registered for the retail storage and sale of ice cream in the District. Routine sampling of the products is carried out for bacteriological examination. No ice cream is now manufactured in the District.

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During the year a total of 43 samples were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service and subjected to the Methylene Blue Test.

Grade	Time taken to Reduce Methylene Blue	No.	Percentage
1	4½ hours or more	21	60.0 (65.00)
2	2½ hours to 4 hours	12	34.3 (25.00)
3	½ hour to 2 hours	2	5.7 (10.00)
4	0 hours	-	- -

(Note:- Percentages for 1955 are given in parentheses)

During the year 8 samples were taken of "water ices" of which all reached a satisfactory bacteriological standard.

FOOD HYGIENE FILM SHOWS.

During July the Council arranged with Messrs. Deosan Ltd. for a series of two showings of films at Duston (in co-operation with British Timken Ltd.) on health education and food handling.

A new film of outstanding interest entitled "Food without Fear" was shown following an introductory talk by the Public Health Inspector. A further film called "Another Case of Food Poisoning" illustrated common faults in the handling of food and their consequences which proved to be serious in the instance illustrated.

The managers and staff of all the factory canteens in the District were invited to attend. A better response to the invitation should have been forthcoming, considering the importance of the subject and the large number of persons regularly catered for in the factories. Those who attended the meetings both enjoyed the events and certainly benefitted.

MEAT INSPECTION.

The throughput at the eight slaughterhouses licensed within this District showed an increase of 20% over last year (34174 head as compared with 28411 head in 1955). Of this total the Hardingstone abattoir dealt with 90%, a slight increase on 1955.

Eighty cases of cysticercus bovis were discovered, eight of which were submitted to treatment by refrigeration.

The incidence of tuberculosis in the cattle inspected was rather lower than last year, fewer cows being slaughtered (56 out of a total of 7217, as compared with 141 out of 5558 in 1955).

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Condemned meat and offals were stained and disposed of to approved traders.

In order to ensure 100% inspection 187 hours outside normal working hours were necessary.

In December, meat inspection was carried out at the slaughterhouses in the County Borough of Northampton, during the absence, through illness, of their inspector.

Details of carcasses inspected and condemned are shown in Table XI of the Appendix on page 33.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1954.

The number of licences in force during the year for the slaughter of animals was 38.

Factories Act, 1937.

Details of inspections made under the Factories Act, 1937 will be found in Table VII of the Appendix on pages 27 and 28.

Petroleum (Regulation) Acts, 1928 and 1936.

The storage of petroleum is not always treated with the caution that this dangerous material requires. This is why special care is taken in examining new applications for siting and storage of petroleum spirit and petroleum mixtures.

69 licences were renewed during the year for the storage of Petroleum Spirit and Petroleum Mixtures. 4 new licences were issued. The total storage capacity of licensed premises at the end of the year was:-

(1) Petroleum Spirit	.....	86,765 gallons
(2) Petroleum Mixtures	.....	3,880 gallons

No licences were issued for the storage of calcium carbide.

NOTE:- The storage capacity for diesel and other oils was 40,550 gallons.

......***...***

I would join with Dr. Lucas in thanks to Mr. Merriman and Mr. Harris for their constant willingness and assiduous attention to their public health duties and consequent welfare of the District.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

R. J. MILLER

Chief Public Health Inspector.

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TABLE 1.

Causes of Death - 1956.

No	Causes of Death	Male	Female	Total
1	Tuberculosis - respiratory	2	2	4
2	Tuberculosis - other	-	2	2
3	Syphilitic Disease	2	-	2
4	Diphtheria	-	-	-
5	Whooping Cough	-	-	-
6	Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
7	Acute poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8	Measles	-	-	-
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	1	1
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	-	2	2
11	" " Lungs, bronchus	7	-	7
12	" " Breast	-	4	4
13	" " Uterus	-	-	-
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	10	11	21
15	Leukemia, aleukemia	-	2	2
16	Diabetes	1	-	1
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	20	21	41
18	Coronary disease, angina	26	12	38
19	Hypertension with heart disease	3	8	11
20	Other heart diseases	15	30	45
21	Other circulatory diseases	8	14	22
22	Influenza	-	1	1
23	Pneumonia	14	13	27
24	Bronchitis	9	5	14
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	-	-	-
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	1	3
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	1	1
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	1	-	1
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	3	-	3
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	1	1
31	Congenital malformations	1	1	2
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	15	10	25
33	Motor vehicle accidents	2	2	4
34	All other accidents	1	5	6
35	Suicide	1	-	1
36	Homicide and operations of war	1	-	1
Total All Causes		144	149	293

TABLE II

Vital Statistics for 1956 and Previous Years

Year	Estimated Population of Northampton Rural District		Births		Deaths			
					Under 1 year		All ages	
			No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate
1936		15,440	206	13.3	14	67.96	183	11.8
1937		15,600	190	12.17	8	42.11	170	10.89
1938		15,680	212	13.4	6	28.30	141	8.9
1939	s	15,760	220	14.5	10	45.45	190	11.4
	ss	16,580						
1940		17,880	238	13.3	8	33.61	228	12.7
1941		19,430	219	11.2	8	37.44	187	9.06
1942		17,890	230	12.6	6	26.08	180	10.06
1943		17,080	273	15.9	7	25.64	186	10.8
1944		17,760	296	16.7	16	54.05	184	10.35
1945	s	15,760	246	13.8	8	32.52	190	10.9
	ss	17,350						
1946		17,600	340	19.3	12	35.26	174	9.9
1947		17,910	355	19.8	13	36.62	202	11.2
1948		18,370	279	15.19	8	28.8	168	9.15
1949	ss	18,760	293	15.58	13	44.37	230	12.26
	s	18,810						
1950		19,320	268	13.87	6	22.39	213	11.03
1951	Census	19,710	203	15.47	9	29.70	234	11.95
1952		19,970	307	15.12	9	29.0	187	9.61
1953		20,240	318	15.7	9	28.3	231	11.3
1954		20,890	329	15.3	6	18.3	274	13.1
1955		21,930	367	16.7	7	21.9	298	13.6
1956		23,290	435	18.6	8	18.3	293	12.4

NOTE:- Population figures are the Registrar Generals
Mid Year estimate.

s. Population for calculation of Birth Rate

ss. Population for calculation of Death Rate.

TABLE III

New Cases of and Deaths from Tuberculosis - 1956

NLW CASES					DEATHS			
Respiratory			Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
Age Period	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
-1								
-5								
-15	1		1					
-25								
-35	1	2				1		
-45								
-55	1	1			1	1		2
-65	5	1						
65 and over	3	1			1			
TOTALS	11	5	1	-	2	2	-	2

NOTE:- These figures are uncorrected
include all deaths from tuberculosis
within the District.

TABLE IV

Age Incidence

of

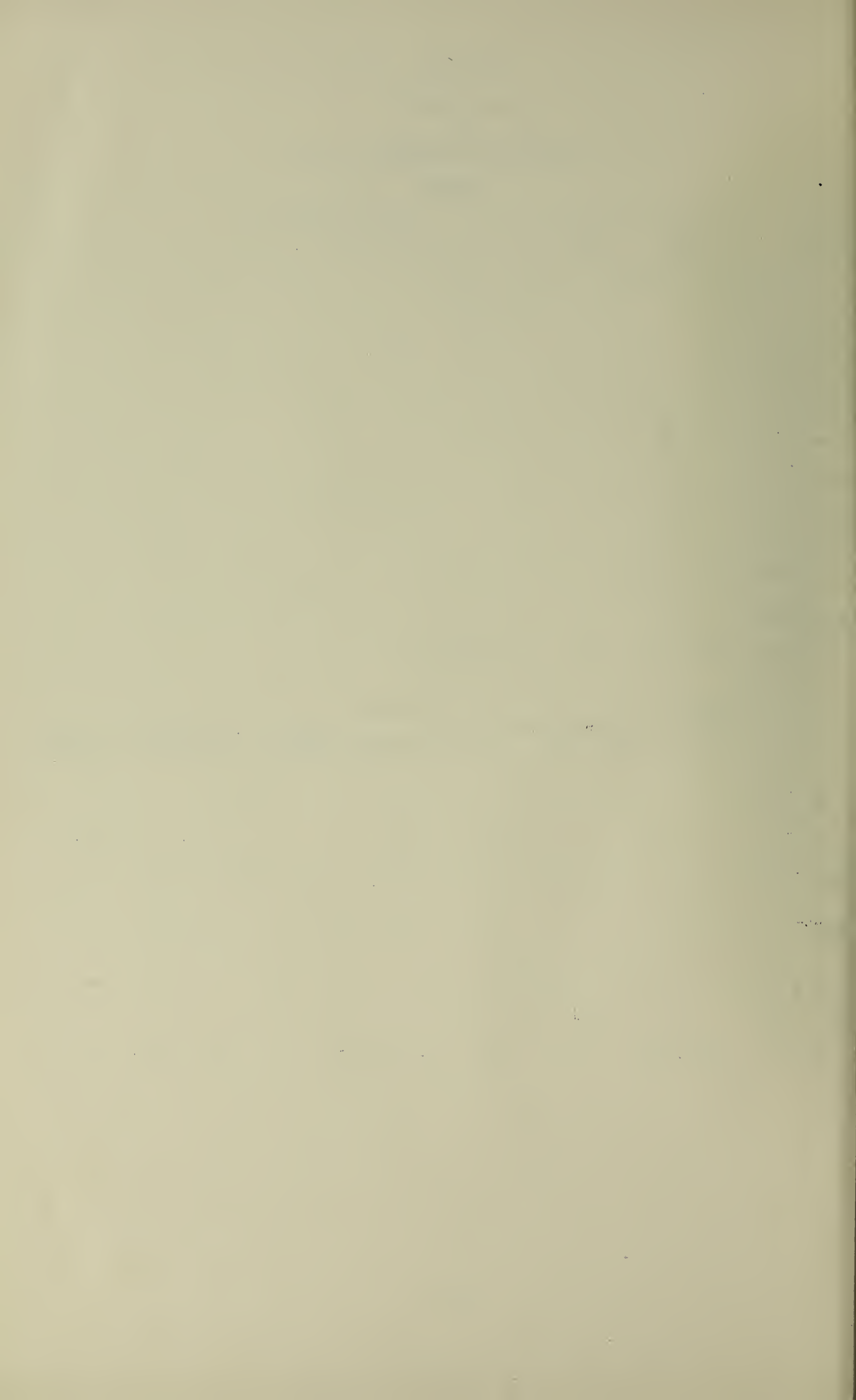
Notifiable Diseases.

As Notified by General Practitioner 1956

DISEASE

AGE GROUP	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Measles		Acute Poliomyelitis Par. Intic.			
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-			3			2				
1-	2	2			1	6	1			
3-	4	3	2		2	5				
5-	8	11	2		16	5				
10-										
15-										
5 and over		1				1				
Age unknown										
TOTALS	14	17	7		19	19	1			

	Acute Pneumonia		Erysipelas		Paratyphoid		Food Poisoning		Puerperal Pyrexia		Tuberculosis Respiratory		Non.Resp.	
0-							3	3						
5-	4	2			1		1				1		1	
15-	2		1	2			2	4	2		1	2		
45-	4	4					1	5			6	2		
55 and over	5	4		1				3			3	1		
Age Unknown			1											
TOTALS	15	10	2	3	1	-	7	15	-	2	11	5	1	-



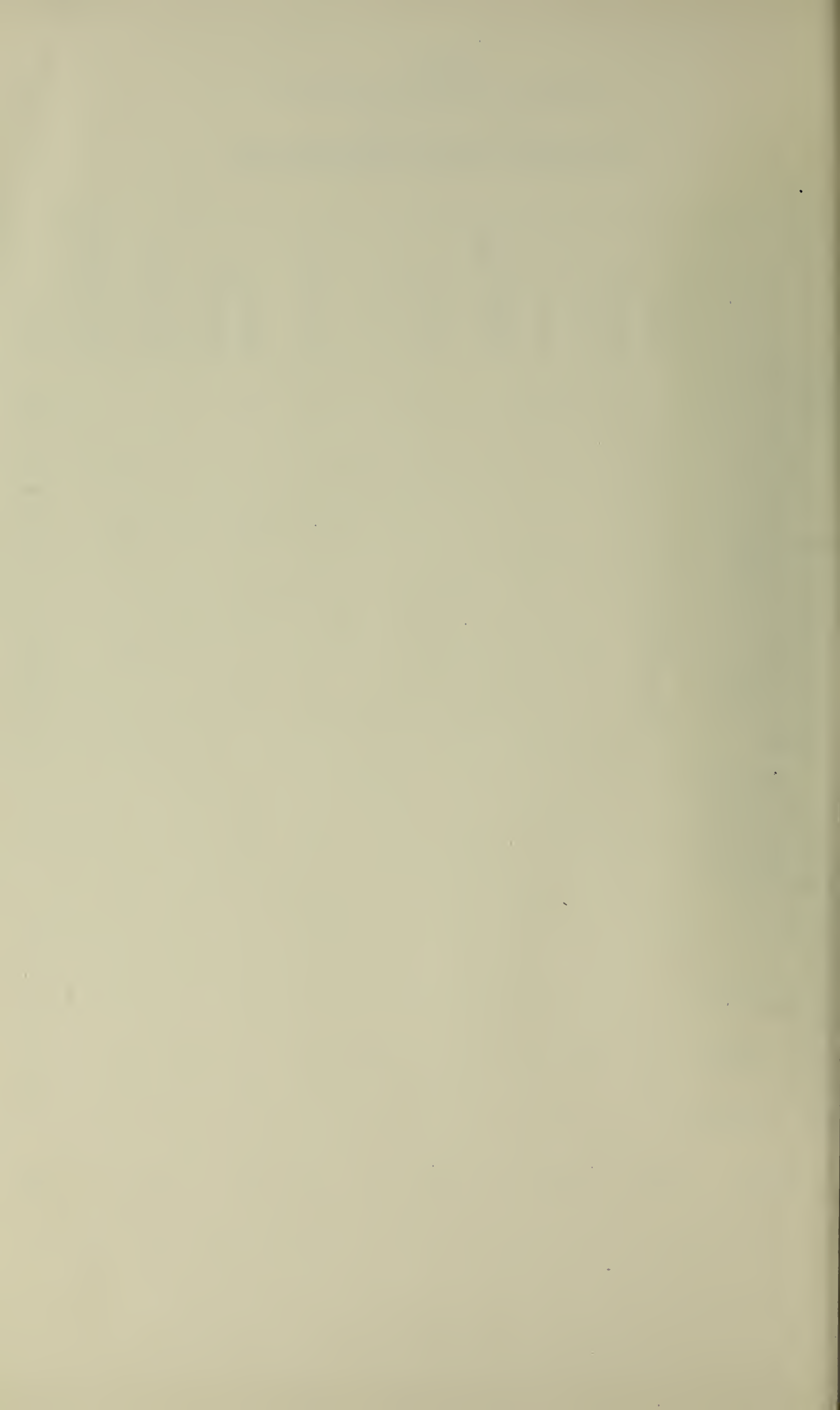


TABLE VI

MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF
NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

As Notified by General Practitioners 1956

DISEASE	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	TOTAL
Scarlet Fever	2	5	4	3	-	1	2	-	5	4	3	2	31
Whooping Cough	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	4	1	7
Measles	2	3	1	11	1	4	3	3	4	4	2	-	38
Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Acute Pneumonia	2	6	5	3	-	2	-	-	2	1	1	3	25
Erysipelas	1	-	1	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	5
Paratyphoid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	15	6	-	22
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2
Tuberculosis Respiratory	-	3	4	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	-	16
Tuberculosis Non. "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
TOTALS	9	17	15	18	3	9	9	6	13	25	18	7	149

TABLE VII

Factories Act, 1937 - Part I

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health made by Public Health Inspector.

<u>PREMISES</u>	<u>No. on Register</u>	<u>No. of Inspections</u>	<u>No. of written notices</u>	<u>No. of Occupiers Prosecuted</u>
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	13	10	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the L.A.	59	13	4	-
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the L.A. (excluding outworkers premises)	25	5	1	-
	97	28	5	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found:-

<u>Particulars</u>	<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>	<u>Referred to H.M. Inspector</u>	<u>Referred By H.M. Inspector</u>
Want of Cleanliness (S.1.)	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)				
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	5	5	-	5
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outworkers)	-	-	-	-
	5	5	-	5

/Continued.....

TABLE VII (Continued)

Part VIII, Factories Act, 1937.
Outwork, (Sections 110 & 111)

Nature of works	No. of outworkers in list required by Section 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No of prosecu- tions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises.
Clothing Manufacture	17	-	-	-
Shoe Manufacture	14	-	-	-
Furniture & Upholstery	-	-	-	-
Making of Boxes (Cardboard)	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	31	-	-	-

TABLE VIII

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS MADE DURING
1956

By the Public Health
Inspectors.

1. PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

(a)	<u>Infectious Diseases</u>	
(i)	Investigating Cases.	3
(ii)	Performing Disinfections	3
(iii)	Visits to Contacts.	3
(b)	<u>Disinfestations</u>	
(i)	Dwelling Houses.	-
(ii)	Business Premises	-
(iii)	Others	
(iv)	Visits to Premises under Section 83	
(c)	<u>Drainage</u>	
(i)	Drains Tested	2
(ii)	Drains Exposed under Section 48	
(iii)	Drains Repaired	
(iv)	Drains reported blocked	
(v)	Drains Reconstructed	
(vi)	Other Drainage Visits.	141
(d)	<u>Water Supply</u>	
(i)	Houses connected to Main Supply.	
(ii)	Water Samples submitted for Analysis	
	(a) Chemical - piped	1
	- Wells and Springs.	1
	(b) Bacteriological - piped	79
	- Wells and Springs	68
(iii)	Water Supply	71
(e)	<u>Visits for Inspection of:-</u>	
(i)	Tents, Vans and Sheds.	31
(ii)	Offensive Trades	
(iii)	Canal Boats	1
(iv)	Atmospheric Pollution	8
(v)	Swimming Baths	39
(vi)	Keeping of Animals	20
(vii)	Accumulations of Refuse	7
(viii)	Miscellaneous Nuisances	34

/continued.....

2.	<u>HOUSING ACT, 1936</u>	
	(a) Houses Inspected	8
	(b) Houses where Defects found	
	(c) Defective Houses Repaired	
	(d) Overcrowding in Houses	
	(e) Miscellaneous Visits	106
3.	<u>FOOD AND DRUGS ACT. 1955</u>	
	Dairies, Milkshops	10
	Slaughternouses	1739
	Knackers Yards.	3
	Ice Cream Premises	14
	Other Premises to which Sections 13 and 14 apply	163
	Bacteriological samples taken	
	(i) Milk	
	(ii) Ice Cream	44
	(iii) other foods	
	Food Poisoning.	34
4.	<u>FACTORIES ACT, 1937</u>	
	Inspections of:-	
	(i) Factories with Mechanical Power	15
	(ii) Factories without Mechanical Power	13
	(iii) Bakehouses.	3
	(iv) Other Premises	
	(v) Factories under Section 34.	
5.	<u>INSPECTIONS UNDER OTHER ACTS.</u>	
	(a) Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949	200
	(b) Petroleum (Regulation) Acts, 1928 and 1936.	60
	(c) Miscellaneous Acts. Regulation and Orders.	180
		<hr/>
	TOTAL INSPECTIONS AND VISITS	3162
		<hr/>

TABLE IX

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1936

Tents, Vans, Sheds and Similar Structures
1956.LICENSING OF LANDLICENSING OF MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

	Application made in 1956	Total number of sites Licensed.	Original applications approved in 1956.	Renewal Applications Approved in 1956.	TOTAL.
HTON					
LLING		2			
AFIELD					
CHROOKE			2		2
STLE ASHBY					
GENHOE		2			
LLINGTREE					
URTEENHALL					
NTON					
STON			2	2	4
CKLETON	1	1		1	1
RDINGSTONE			1	1	2
RPOLE	1	1			
RTWELL					
YFORD, NETHER					
YFORD, UPPER					
UGHTON, GREAT					
UGHTON, LITTLE					
ESLINGBURY					
LTON				2	2
INTON					
DADE	1	1			
UTHERSTHORPE					
ETON					
ESTON FAVELL		1			
DOTTON				1	1
ARELEY HASTINGS		1	1		1
TOTALS.	3	9	6	7	13

TABLE X

Water Supply

Bacteriological Examination of Water Supplies, 1956

PARISH	Total	Public Supplies										Private Supplies									
		Piped					Other					Piped					Other				
		1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
ASHTON	2	2																			
BILLING	9	3					1			1		3		1							
BRAFELD	8	1		1													1	1	1	2	1
BUGBROOKE	2	2																			
CASTLE ASHBY	8	1	4	2	1																
COGENHOE	5	2										1						2			
COLLINGTREE	2	2																			
COURTEENHALL	4	3	1																		
DENTON	3	1	1								1										
DUSTON	5	4																		1	
HACKLETON	14	4										6	2		1		1				
HARDINGSTONE	11	4	1							1		2	3								
HARPOLE	4	3																1			
HARTWELL	2	2																			
HEYFORD NETHER	2	2																			
HEYFORD UPPER	-																				
HOUGHTON GREAT	2	2																			
HOUGHTON LITTLE	9	4			1												2				2
KISLINGBURY	2	1		1																	
MILTON	4	2																		1	1
QUINTON	2	2																			
ROADE	2	2																			
ROTHERSTHORPE	3	2																	1		
UPTON	2	2																			
WESTON FAVELL	5	3	1									1									
WOOTTON	7		4							1		2									
YARDLEY HASTINGS	3	2							1												
TOTALS	122	58	12	4	1	1	1	-	1	3	1	12	8	-	2	-	2	4	4	4	4

TABLE XI

MEAT & FOOD INSPECTION

During the year ending 31st December, 1956 the following foodstuffs were dealt with:-

SURRENDERED.

	<u>Tons</u>	<u>Cwt</u>	<u>Qr</u>	<u>lbs</u>	
Home Killed Beef	3	1	-	22	Diseased condition
Home Killed Veal	-	-	3	2	Diseased condition
Home Killed Mutton	-	-	3	6	Diseased condition
Home Killed Pork	-	16	2	10	Diseased condition
Home Killed Offal	21	19	-	15	Diseased condition
Home Killed Oxtails	-	3	3	-	Store stale
Imported Beef	-	-	3	17	Decomposition
Imported Offal	-	1	2	19	Breakdown of refrigerator
Bacon	-	-	-	2	Decomposition
Sausage	-	-	-	1	Decomposition
Corned Beef	-	-	1	8	Decomposition
<u>TOTAL</u>	26	5	0	18	

During the period 34174 head of livestock were slaughtered (7161 cattle; 56 cows; 572 calves; 15647 sheep; 10737 pigs; 1 goat)

MEAT INSPECTION REPORT.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED DURING YEAR 1956

	Cattle Excluding Cows.	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number Killed	7161	56	572	15647	10737
Number Inspected	7161	56	572	15647	10737
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	1	3	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	2352	15	2	222	760
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	32.84	26.79	0.52	1.55	7.08
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
Whole carcass condemned	7	-	1	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	442	4	-	-	166
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	6.27	7.14	0.18	0.0	1.55
<u>Cysticercosis</u>					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	72	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	8	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-

Note:- No horses were slaughtered for human consumption.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL
YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH, 1957

TABLE XII

COLLECTION			DISPOSAL				
	Total Est. Weight Tons	Total Mileage Travelled	Gayton Tons	Ashton Tons	Denton Harpole Tons	Yardley Hastings Tons	
1956							
April	425	2545	220	36	33	123	Total cost of service 8155 17 1
May	481	2763	243	43	38	142	Income from salvage 1434 14 4
June	469	2587	250	39	49	118	other income 52 0 0
July	458	2652	257	30	30	128	Total Nett cost 6669 2 9
August	420	2596	242	26	40	103	
September	483	2494	267	36	44	118	Annual Average Cost 20/8¼ 16/10⅞
October	537	2904	294	33	38	154	
November	886	5422	494	72	83	212	Per dwelling (7886)
December							Annual Average Cost
1957							Per head of Population
January	581	2581	343	35	48	147	(23290) 7/- 5/8¼
February	495	2271	324	10	39	110	
March	511	2443	332	2	39	120	
Totals	5746	31258	3266	362	481	1475	Salvage Disposed of During the year comprised
% per tip			56.84	6.30	8.37	25.67	
						2.82	Tons 151 Cwts 1 Qrts 3
							Paper 1 Textiles 8 Scrap 4

TABLE XIII

CASUALTIES DEALT WITH AT THE KNACKER'S YARD
DURING 1956.

Bulls	17
Cows	847
Steers and Heifers	1153
Calves	1118
Sheep	4181
Pigs	96
Donkeys	4
Goats	8
Deer	2
Horses - slaughtered at Knacker's Yard	Nil
slaughtered at various Farms	63
Carcases received ex Farms	<u>88</u> <u>151</u>
	<u>7577</u>

TABLE XIV

FOOD POISONING OUTBREAK

1. Food Causing Outbreak.

Agent causing Outbreak.	Potted Meat Paste Salmonella Enteritides
-------------------------	---

2. Cases forming Outbreak

DURATION	28.9.56 to 23.11.56
TOTAL NOTIFIED	16
TOTAL ASCERTAINED	21
FATAL	Nil.

3. Results of Laboratory Investigation

Cases	Faeces samples from 16 patients positive
Food Samples	None

4. The Potted Meat was manufactured and sold in Northampton County Borough and was the established cause in 16 cases.

NOTE: In addition to the above outbreak there was a single food poisoning notification received. The agent causing illness was Salmonella Typhemurium (variety jena) but the food causing the poisoning was not traced although samples of suspected food were analysed.

TAB. XV

Schedule of Sanitation and Water Supplies Within the District

Parish	Total No. of Houses occupied in Parish (as per Rate Book)	No. of houses with drains discharging to:-		No. of Houses with Cesspools Etc.	Closet Accommodation		Closet Accommodation		No. of houses with:-		Water Supply	
		Surface Drains	Water Drains		W.C.S. & Flush	No. of houses with:-	Closets	Hand Flush	Pail Closets	Privy Middens	Water laid on	No. of houses with:- Stand Taps
Ashton	122	33	91	-	91	-	33	-	-	-	78	19
Billing	272	67	189	10	199	6	67	-	-	-	157	57
Brafield	220	10	214	-	144	70	10	-	-	-	120	69
Bugbrooke	353	8	351	4	347	-	16	-	1	-	235	20
Castle Ashby	70	-	70	-	70	-	-	-	-	-	67	2
Cogenhoe	234	-	234	18	180	-	54	-	-	-	124	5
Collingtree	95	-	91	9	93	-	13	-	-	-	49	-
Courteenhall	43	26	6	12	17	1	26	-	-	-	27	6
Denton	147	4	134	13	87	55	5	-	4	-	64	76
Duston	1316	7	1357	9	1314	48	9	-	2	-	870	5
Hackleton	316	229	52	41	54	9	249	-	10	-	104	8
Hardingstone	417	4	411	14	348	77	4	-	-	-	270	28
Harpole	373	85	294	10	384	9	231	-	-	-	321	15
Hartwell	205	48	153	7	160	-	37	-	11	-	153	16
Heyford, Nether	255	23	243	3	246	-	23	-	-	-	149	43
Heyford, Upper	27	4	17	8	25	-	4	-	-	-	28	1
Houghton Great	96	72	-	27	25	2	55	-	17	-	8	41
Houghton, Little	155	76	81	7	61	32	66	-	5	-	31	75
Kislingbury	282	10	251	6	251	1	35	-	-	-	210	34
Milton	217	1	221	-	155	67	-	-	-	-	92	-
Quinton	84	12	29	13	42	-	12	-	-	-	18	-
Road	463	9	439	8	397	50	9	-	-	-	284	28
Rothersthorpe	86	33	24	32	56	-	33	-	2	-	32	-
Upton	27	3	20	4	20	4	3	-	-	-	33	-
Weston Favell	1398	4	1459	14	1270	3	4	-	-	-	582	4
Wootton	378	18	371	7	358	18	20	-	-	-	173	33
Yardley Hastings	283	-	281	5	151	130	5	-	-	-	198	64
TOTALS	7904	786	7083	281	6545	582	1013	-	52	-	4477	592
											313	645

Figures as at 31st March, 1957

Figures as at 31st December, 1956

Figures as at 1951. Not now obtainable.

